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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4365th meeting of the Security Council, held on 5 September 2001, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the success of the preparatory meeting of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, held in Gaborone on 20-24 August 2001.

"The Security Council reiterates its strong support for the Inter-Congolese Dialogue and for the efforts of the Facilitator and his team in the field. It calls on all the Congolese parties to further cooperate with each other and the Facilitator in the constructive spirit of Gaborone to ensure the successful outcome of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue starting on 15 October 2001, in Addis Ababa.

"The Security Council stresses the importance for the Dialogue to be free from outside interference, open, representative and inclusive, and emphasizes the need to ensure adequate representation of Congolese women in the process.

"The Security Council encourages donors to provide further support to the Facilitator for the Inter-Congolese Dialogue and, in due course, the process of implementing a new political dispensation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

"The Security Council urges all the parties to the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement to press forward with the full and early implementation of that Agreement, including disarmament, demobilization, reintegration, repatriation and resettlement of the armed groups, and the withdrawal of foreign forces."

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